UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

In re: Curtis C. Nelson,) Case No: 11-43113 (RJK)
Debtor,) Chapter 11
)
Siamak Masoudi,)
Plaintiff,))
v.) Adv. Proc. No:
Curtis C. Nelson,))
Defendant.)

COMPLAINT TO EXCEPT CERTAIN DEBTS FROM DISCHARGE

Plaintiff, Siamak Masoudi, as and for his Complaint against Defendant states and alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

As will be explained in more detail below, by this Complaint, Plaintiff seeks to have certain obligations owed to Plaintiff by Defendant, Curtis C. Nelson, determined to be nondischargeable because they are debts for money or extensions and renewal of credit obtained by the Defendant by false pretense, false representations or actual fraud. Plaintiff further seeks to have certain debts owed him by the Defendant declared nondischargeable because they were the result of Defendant's willful and malicious conduct.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over all causes of action asserted herein pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334.
 - 2. This action constitutes a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b).
 - 3. Venue is proper in this District under 11 U.S.C. § 1409.

THE PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff Siamak Masoudi is a resident of Minnetonka, Minnesota, and was formerly employed by Visible Customer, LLC ("Visible Customer" or "the Company") and Insperity PEO Services, L.P., at all times relevant known as Administaff Companies, II, L.P. ("Administaff") (name change believed to have occurred on March 3, 2011).
- 5. Defendant Curtis C. Nelson ("Nelson") is a Minnesota resident whose last known residence is 1555 Linner Road, Wayzata, Minnesota 55391, and at all times relevant hereto served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Visible Customer and was Plaintiff's supervisor. Upon information and belief, Nelson became the majority shareholder of Visible Customer in 2008.

FACTS

- 6. Plaintiff and Nelson have known each other for over twenty (20) years. During that time, Plaintiff and Nelson have worked together at Carlson Companies and other business ventures.
- 7. Plaintiff and Nelson were also personal friends during the approximately twenty-year relationship.
- 8. In early July, 2008, Nelson contacted Plaintiff and asked Plaintiff to join Nelson's new company, Visible Customer, a marketing firm targeted at automobile dealerships. Nelson

enthusiastically told Plaintiff that this new Company had a software and data process ("Product/Service") that could revolutionize the automobile dealers' marketing efforts for repeat business for auto purchases and auto services.

- 9. At the time Nelson contacted Plaintiff about his new Company, Plaintiff was the President and owner of his own hospitality consulting company, SAM Hospitality.
- 10. Nelson vigorously recruited Plaintiff to come and join him in his new venture with Visible Customer. Nelson told Plaintiff that he needed him because he needed people he could trust and that he knew and trusted Plaintiff's skill set and work ethics. Nelson also said that job offers were out to others and Plaintiff needed to move fast to get in on this fabulous opportunity to change the marketing industry and make a lot of money.
- 11. Plaintiff initially turned down Nelson's offer to join him at Visible Customer. Plaintiff was reluctant to leave his highly compensated job and independence to join a new venture with Nelson. Plaintiff's reluctance in part was due to Nelson's history of alcohol and drug abuse and addiction.
- 12. Nelson acknowledged to Plaintiff that he was an alcoholic, and told Plaintiff that if that was a concern Plaintiff could communicate directly with Nelson's mental health counselor. Nelson promised Plaintiff that he was done with alcohol and drugs.
- 13. During the recruitment process, Nelson promised Plaintiff that he was not using alcohol and drugs because of his past issues with his family and ex-wife. Nelson represented to Plaintiff that he could not use alcohol or drugs or it would affect his ability to receive trust funds, and he had to be drug-free to see his children.

- 14. In order to persuade Plaintiff to accept employment at Visible Customer, Nelson told Plaintiff that the Company had at least 175 customer accounts already signed on with the Company.
- 15. In addition, Nelson told Plaintiff that Visible Customer's software and data program was operating at full scale and had "proof of concept."
- 16. Nelson also told Plaintiff on or about July 20, 2008, that Visible Customer had doubled the gross profit margin the preceding week so now was the time to join the Company. Nelson further attempted to induce Plaintiff to join him at Visible Customer by stating that he anticipated two changes that were being tested in the product to increase the profit margin by double again soon.
- 17. Nelson also told Plaintiff that the Product/Service was operating and producing ten (10) times or 1,000% return for the auto dealer accounts.
- 18. Nelson told Plaintiff that the core product was generating \$1,000 gross profit per month per account, and he expected it could rise as much as eight (8) to ten (10) percent within a short time.
- 19. Nelson told Plaintiff that he was investing his own money into Visible Customer, and that the Company was well capitalized. During his pursuit of Plaintiff to join Visible Customer, Nelson sent Plaintiff a text message asking him what color he wanted his Ferrari to be when they made it big in two years.
- 20. Nelson also contacted Plaintiff's wife in an attempt to persuade Plaintiff to join him, and he personally went to Plaintiff's home to talk with Plaintiff and his wife to persuade Plaintiff to join Visible Customer.

- 21. Nelson tried to induce Plaintiff to join him by offering a significant base salary, bonus, and stock options.
- 22. Nelson repeatedly attempted to persuade Plaintiff to join him at Visible Customer, despite Plaintiff's initial response declining the employment offer.
- 23. On July 21, 2008, Nelson offered Plaintiff in writing the position of Senior Vice President of Operations.
- 24. In order to persuade Plaintiff to accept employment, Nelson increased his original offer of base salary and raised the bonus to 50% of the base and guaranteed half of the bonus for the first year.
- 25. Pursuant to the proposed Employment Offer and Agreement, Plaintiff was to be paid a base salary of \$250,000, and a bonus level targeted at 50% of base salary with the total maximum opportunity up to 150% of that amount for extraordinary performance. For the remainder of the year 2008, the bonus was guaranteed at the 50% level.
- 26. Plaintiff would also receive ten (10) days of vacation for the remainder of the year 2008, and thereafter twenty (20) days per year.
- 27. As part of his compensation, Plaintiff was to receive 250,000 stock options with an exercise price of \$1.00. The first 125,000 options were to vest immediately upon commencement of employment; another 25% were to vest after completing 12 months of employment and the remaining 25% were to vest after 24 months of continuous employment.
- 28. Despite the substantial compensation package, Plaintiff expressed concern to Nelson about leaving his job that he enjoyed, the people he worked with, and the knowledge that it was a stable position.

- 29. Nelson reassured Plaintiff that Visible Customer was in the beginning of the high growth part of the business life cycle and not in a start-up mode. Nelson also assured Plaintiff that Visible Customer had solid financial backing by Nelson's company, Curt Company One.
- 30. Plaintiff relied on Nelson's representations about Visible Customer business operations and accounts.
- 31. Plaintiff also relied on Nelson's repeated assurances that he was a new man, and promises that Nelson was not using, and would not in the future, use alcohol or drugs, to make his decision to accept Nelson's offer of employment at Visible Customer.
- 32. Based upon the representations made by Nelson, as stated herein, Plaintiff finally agreed to work for Nelson and Visible Customer.
- 33. As a condition of employment, Plaintiff required a guaranteed severance plan that he would receive his base salary for one year in the event it didn't work out with Visible Customer.
- 34. On or about August 8, 2008, Plaintiff began work part-time at Visible Customer. Plaintiff completed matters and resigned from his former employer, and closed his consulting business.
- 35. On or about August 28, 2008, Plaintiff signed the Employment Offer and Agreement with Visible Customer, which Nelson executed on behalf of Visible Customer.
- 36. The parties agreed as set forth in the Employment Agreement that if Plaintiff's employment ended with Visible Customer that Plaintiff would receive a severance allowance equal to twelve (12) months of his base salary.
- 37. Only after Plaintiff began working at Visible Customer did he learn that Nelson had misrepresented that Visible Customer had 175 customer accounts at the time he persuaded

Plaintiff to join Visible Customer. In addition, Plaintiff also learned that Nelson misrepresented the status of the Product/Service and that it did not perform the functions that Nelson had emphasized and the Company was not generating the profit that was promised to dealers when Nelson persuaded Plaintiff to join him.

- 38. During the first few months of employment at Visible Customer, Plaintiff worked hard to promote sales to auto dealerships, the target of the marketing Product/Service of Visible Customer. Nelson continued to assure Plaintiff that the Product/Service was completed and operable, and promised continued enhancements to it.
- 39. During the first few months at Visible Customer, Plaintiff learned, however, that the Product/Service was not operating as Nelson had promised him and had also represented to current and potential customers.
- 40. In about October, 2008, Plaintiff again asked Nelson about the financial health of Visible Customer and Nelson assured him that it was covered and not to worry about it. Nelson told Plaintiff that he would cover the financing aspect of the Company and Plaintiff should focus on sales.
- 41. Despite Nelson's representations to Plaintiff that Visible Customer was in the beginning of the high growth cycle of business and that the software was operating at full capability, this was not the case. Contrary to Nelson's assertions, the software was not capable of doing what Nelson had represented to Plaintiff what it could do.
- 42. In addition, Nelson changed and revised the Product/Service to the extent that it could not deliver what it was represented to do for customers in the automobile industry.

- 43. During Plaintiff's employment, he repeatedly reported numerous problems with the software to Nelson. In response, Nelson assured Plaintiff that it would be fixed and enhanced, but the software was not ultimately fixed and/or enhanced.
- 44. On or about November 12, 2008, Nelson offered Plaintiff and his wife an opportunity to invest money in Nelson's company, Curt Company Investments, with the promise that they would earn a significant return on their investment within one year. Nelson assured Plaintiff and his wife that the investment was backed by Nelson's company's \$18 million account.
- 45. Nelson promised Plaintiff and his wife a return of twenty percent (20%) on the investment in Curt Company Investment.
- 46. Nelson, as the President and CEO of Curt Company Investments, executed a one-year Promissory Note effective November 20, 2008, for the principal amount of \$100,000.00 to Plaintiff and his wife Afsaneh Motameni. The Note provided payment in full was to be made in one year with 20% interest per annum compounded annually.
- 47. In 2009, Visible Customer experienced dire financial issues. The Company was not able to pay vendors, making payroll was a repeated issue, and customers were cancelling accounts due to the Company's failure to meet its contractual obligations. Employees were let go, and employees, including Plaintiff, took pay cuts.
- 48. Nelson's representations about substantial financing of Visible Customer were also false. In February, 2009, Visible Customer had insufficient financing to meet its payable obligations. In October, 2009, Visible Customer was unable to cover its payroll, and Defendant Nelson borrowed money from his parents to pay employees.

- 49. Upon information and belief, in June of 2010, Nelson paid the payroll directly from his own accounts.
- 50. Even while Visible Customer had significant problems financially, Nelson misused funds from Visible Customer to charter a private jet for a personal vacation with his girlfriend to Las Vegas. When Plaintiff learned of Nelson's misuse of funds, he confronted Nelson about it and complained that he was taking a pay cut while Nelson was using company funds for personal trips.
- 51. In 2009, Nelson exhibited erratic behavior. For example, Nelson was late for meetings with important customers, vendors, and prospects. At other meetings Nelson fell asleep or didn't make sense. He made rash decisions, and intimidated people in meetings by getting angry and pounding his fist on the table. He accused senior management of stealing from him and audited their expense reports, never substantiated any inappropriate reports. He insisted on firing valuable people from the company while keeping his personal friends on staff when they knew nothing about the business. He directed valuable resources on initiatives without consultation with management about the viability of such efforts. While the Company was laying people off and asking for pay cuts from everyone, Nelson spent thousands of dollars redecorating the office and creating a "zen" room for meditation.
- 52. On October 21, 2009, Plaintiff complained to Nelson that Visible Customer was in serious trouble because the software was not meeting expectations of customers, and that Nelson had alienated customers, vendors, and employees. Plaintiff warned Nelson that if something wasn't done, the Company's future was in jeopardy.
- 53. In November, 2009, Plaintiff and his wife demanded that Nelson make payment to them based on the Promissory Note with Curt Company Investments. Nelson hesitated and

requested that Plaintiff and his wife leave their \$100,000 investment with Curt Company Investments for another year. Plaintiff and his wife refused and again demanded payment on the note.

- 54. Nelson finally told Plaintiff and his wife that he would pay back the principal amount of \$100,000 in January, 2010, three months after the due date on the note, if they agreed to reinvest the interest and the remaining amount of Plaintiff's unpaid signing bonus of about \$12,000 with Nelson. Plaintiff and Nelson went back and forth about repayment on the Note, and Nelson kept delaying the repayment.
- 55. In January, 2010, Plaintiff learned that Nelson was paying another employee, Ken Raush, \$250,000 when Nelson had told Plaintiff that the employee was being paid minimal salary and given stock in the Company. Plaintiff complained to Nelson that he was taking a \$50,000 pay reduction and no bonus in order to help the Company's financial situation when Nelson was paying others exorbitant amounts of money for minimal services, and using Company funds for Nelson's personal benefit.
- 56. Nelson again promised Plaintiff that Visible Customer was financially sound and that he had personally put in \$2 million into the Company.
- 57. In March, 2010, Nelson admitted to Plaintiff that he was drinking alcohol again and voluntarily admitted himself to a treatment center.
- 58. In April, 2010, Nelson acknowledged that he owed Plaintiff his bonus and payment on the Note. Nelson asked Plaintiff if he could have a payment schedule, which Plaintiff refused. Nelson also tried to persuade Plaintiff and his wife to take equity in the Company or make another loan to Visible Customer because Nelson said it was a good time to

invest in Visible Customer as it would be turning a profit in the next few months. Plaintiff and his wife declined Nelson's offer to invest in Visible Customer.

- 59. Nelson then told Plaintiff that he would pay the principal back if Plaintiff agreed to "lend" Nelson the amount of the interest owed and the bonus that was still owed to Plaintiff. Although they did not want to invest any money in Visible Customer, Plaintiff and his wife felt they had no choice but to accept Nelson's proposal or they believed they would not receive payment on their \$100,000 loan to Curt Company Investments. At the time he agreed, Plaintiff believed that the new loan was to Curt Company Investments.
- 60. In February of 2010, Nelson paid Plaintiff the principal on the Note dated November 20, 2008.
- 61. On April 1, 2010, Nelson executed a Secured Promissory Note to Siamak Masoudi on behalf of Visible Customer Holdings, LLC promising to pay Plaintiff the principal sum of up to Fifty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$50,000). To date, the principal amount and interest has not been paid to Plaintiff.
- 62. During his employment, Plaintiff repeatedly refused to misrepresent the software product and its capabilities to potential customers and warned Nelson that such misrepresentations were illegal and/or fraudulent.
- 63. During the first week of June, 2010, Plaintiff was asked by Steve Hastings, Chief Financial Officer of Visible Customer, to deposit checks at US Bank on behalf of the Company. Although Plaintiff questioned it because he had no knowledge of a Company account at US Bank, Hastings told him a new account was opened because if money was deposited in other Company accounts at a different bank, the bank might collect from the account past due charges.

Although Plaintiff questioned whether this was an unethical action to avoid paying debts, he agreed to drop it off based on Hastings' assurance that it was not unethical.

- 64. Plaintiff went to the US Bank with the checks made payable to Visible Customer and the deposit slip Hastings had given him attached to the checks. Upon attempting to deposit the checks, the bank teller advised Plaintiff that the deposit slip was for an account belonging to Curtis Nelson and she could not find a Visible Customer account. The teller called her manager, who further advised Plaintiff that depositing checks made out to Visible Customer in a private account was illegal. Embarrassed, Plaintiff left the bank and traveled back to Visible Customer's office.
- 65. Plaintiff returned the checks and the deposit slip to Hastings, who told him that he and Nelson had done it on a number of occasions before and it was fine. That same day, Plaintiff reported to Nelson and Hastings that depositing the checks in Nelson's account was illegal, and that he refused to engage in illegal activities.
- 66. Also in June 2010, Plaintiff and other employees were paid their salaries with checks from Curtis Company One, LLC. Plaintiff objected, believing that this was illegal since Curtis Company One did not have authority to withhold tax deductions and no means of filing tax statements for the employees of Visible Customer.
- 67. During this same time, Plaintiff also complained to Nelson that Visible Customer was in dire trouble with its customers and vendors, employees were demoralized and something needed to be done.
- 68. After Plaintiff complained, and reported in good faith these fraudulent and illegal practices, Nelson fired Plaintiff on June 9, 2010 as a result of Plaintiff's complaints.

- 69. On or about June 10, 2010, Plaintiff demanded that Nelson pay him the money owed to him consisting of his salary for the last two weeks of employment, severance pay under his Employment Agreement, payout of accrued vacation, and reimbursement of travel and business expenses. Plaintiff also made a demand to Nelson for payment for monies owed on the promissory note with Curt Company Investments and the note to Visible Customer, which included a bonus due the previous year.
- Plaintiff and his business reputation to others. For example, Nelson reportedly told other Visible Customer employees that Plaintiff had "been undermining the company and all of you for the last six months"; "Siamak has become increasingly volatile over the past six months"; "he has been making many demands over the past several months"; "Siamak was demanding to be paid even though no one else is able to get paid"; "don't trust anything Siamak had told you"; "Siamak has thrown all of you under the bus"; "Siamak resigned from the company"; "Siamak invested money in the company and asked for a ridiculous interest rate on the money he borrowed the company"; "Siamak was calling Visible Customer's dealers saying horrible things about Nelson relating to his past"; and that Siamak gave Nelson "bad information to keep him investing in Visible Customer as well as some of the larger investments the Company had made."
- 71. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Nelson's conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer substantial lost income and benefits, lost career opportunities and job security, harm to his professional reputation and other damages.

- 72. Defendant Nelson was the sole owner of Visible Customer Holdings, LLC, Curtis Company One, LLC, Curt Company Customer, LLC, Curt Company, Inc., and Curt Company Investments, LLC, and was the majority shareholder of Visible Customer, LLC.
- 73. Defendant Nelson utilized corporate funds for his personal use, including, but not limited to, taking a personal trip to Las Vegas using company funds and directing that checks made to the order of Visible Customer be deposited in his personal bank account. As a result of Defendant Nelson's diversion of corporate funds, the corporation was unable to pay what was owed to Plaintiff.
- 74. Upon information and belief, Defendant Nelson personally guaranteed at least one contract with a vendor for services to Visible Customer.
- 75. On or about March 25, 2011, Plaintiff initiated a civil action in Hennepin County District Court, Fourth Judicial District, of the State of Minnesota against Defendant Nelson, Visible Customer, Visible Customer Holdings, LLC, Curtis Company One, LLC, Curt Company Customer, LLC, Curt Company, Inc., Curt Company Investments, LLC, and Insperity PEO Services, L.P., (f/k/a) Administaff Companies, II, L.P., alleging claims of fraudulent and/or negligent misrepresentation, violation of Minn. Stat. § 181.64, promissory estoppel, breach of contract employment agreement, breach of contract promissory note, breach of contract secured promissory note, defamation, violation of Minn. Stat. § 181.13, violation of the Minnesota Whistleblower Act (Minn. Stat. § 181.932, et seq.), common law wrongful discharge, pierce the corporate veil, and unjust enrichment.
- 76. Visible Customer, LLC, and upon information and belief its parent company, Curt Company Customer, LLC, operated at all times relevant hereto from their corporate offices located at 1555 Linner Rd., Wayzata, MN 55391, Hennepin County, Minnesota. Upon

information and belief, on or about July 6, 2010 Visible Customer, LLC filed a voluntary Chapter 7 action in U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Petition # 10-45062), and the stay that arose there from enjoined the continuation of legal actions against Visible Customer, LLC. Upon further information and belief, Nelson is the sole owner of Curt Company Customer.

- 77. Visible Customer Holdings, LLC is a Minnesota corporation operating at all times relevant in the City of Wayzata, Hennepin County, Minnesota. Upon information and belief, Nelson is the sole owner of Visible Customer Holdings.
- 78. Curtis Company One, LLC, is a Minnesota corporation and operated at all times relevant hereto from its corporate offices in the City of Wayzata, Hennepin County, Minnesota. Upon information and belief, Nelson is the sole owner of Curtis Company One.
- 79. Upon information and belief, Curt Company Customer, LLC is a Minnesota entity wholly-owned by Curtis Company One and through which Nelson invested in Visible Customer. Upon information and belief, Nelson is the sole owner of Curt Company Customer.
- 80. Upon information and belief, Curt Company, Inc. is a Minnesota entity whollyowned by Defendant Nelson and through which Nelson invested in Visible Customer. Upon information and belief, Nelson is the sole owner of Curt Company
- 81. Curt Company Investments, LLC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Curtis
 Company One, and a Delaware corporation doing business in Minnesota. Defendant Nelson
 served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Curt Company Investments. Upon
 information and belief, Nelson is the sole owner of Curt Company Investments.
- 82. Administaff is a professional employer organization ("PEO") and operated as a co-employer, along with Visible Customer, of Plaintiff.

- 83. On or about April 8, 2011, Plaintiff amended his Complaint in his state court civil action to remove Visible Customer as a defendant based upon a stay imposed in Visible Customer's voluntary Chapter 7 action in U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Petition # 10-45062).
- 84. Subsequent to Plaintiff's service of his Amended Complaint in the state court civil action, on or about May 2, 2011, Defendant Nelson filed a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Petition (Petition # 11-43113).

COUNT I

(11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(2)(A): False Pretenses, False Representation and Actual Fraud)

- 85. Plaintiff re-alleges and re-asserts the allegations contained in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporates them by reference.
- 86. Section 523(a)(2)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that a debtor may not be discharged from any debt "for money, property, services, or an extension, renewal or refinancing of credit, to the extent obtained by...false pretenses, a false representation or actual fraud."
 - 87. Defendant Nelson made false representations of material fact to Plaintiff.
- 88. To induce Plaintiff to accept employment, Defendant Nelson specifically represented to Plaintiff that Visible Customer had 175 current customers, the product had a proof of concept, the Product/Service was at the beginning of the growth cycle, and that the Product/Service of Visible Customer was operating and producing a ten (10) times or 1,000% return for the auto dealer accounts at \$1,000 per month gross profit for Visible Customer.
- 89. These representations were false, as, upon information and belief, Visible

 Customer did not have 175 current customers, the Product/Service was not operating and

 producing at full capability, the product had no proof of concept, the dealers were not receiving

- ten (10) times or 1000% return on the Product/Service, and Visible Customer was not earning a gross profit of 1,000% per month.
- 90. Defendant Nelson either knew that the representations were false or made the representations as being true without knowing whether they were true or false.
 - 91. Defendant Nelson intended that Plaintiff act on the false representations.
 - 92. Plaintiff was induced to act, and did act, in reliance on the false representations.
- 93. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Nelson's conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer substantial lost income and benefits, lost career opportunities and job security, harm to his professional reputation and other damages.
- 94. By reason of the foregoing, Defendant Nelson is liable to Plaintiff for the damages he sustained, in excess of \$500,000, which debt is nondischargeable debt under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(2)(A).

COUNT II

(11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(6): Willful and Malicious Injury)

- 95. Plaintiff re-alleges and re-asserts the allegations contained in the foregoing paragraphs and incorporates them by reference.
- 96. Section 523(a)(6) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that a debtor may not be discharged from any debt "for willful and malicious injury by the debtor to another entity or to the property of another entity."
- 97. Plaintiff, in good faith, reported what he believed to be violations of federal and/or state laws, including but not limited to, his complaints to Defendant Nelson and Visible Customer that their depositing checks payable to Visible Customer in Nelson's accounts was

unlawful, that Curt Company One did not have authority to deduct withholdings from employee paychecks and that their filing returns with the Internal Revenue Service was unlawful.

- 98. Plaintiff also objected and reported to Defendant Nelson and Visible Customer that their misrepresenting to customers that their product could perform specific functions when it could not was fraudulent.
- 99. Defendant Nelson and Visible Customer retaliated against Plaintiff as a result of his reports and refusals, including but not limited to, terminating his employment.
- 100. The adverse employment actions as alleged herein constitute violations of Minn. Stat. § 181.932, *et seq.*
- 101. After Plaintiff's employment was terminated, Defendant Nelson, Visible

 Customer and Administraff owed, and continue to owe, Plaintiff salary, and part of the signing
 bonus, accrued but unused vacation, and severance pay.
- 102. Plaintiff demanded in writing that Defendant Nelson or Visible Customer pay the monies owed to him.
- 103. Defendant Nelson has failed to pay Plaintiff monies constituting wages earned and unpaid.
- 104. Defendant Nelson is liable to pay Plaintiff monies owed. In addition, under Minn. Stat. § 181.13, Plaintiff is entitled to fifteen (15) days of wages at the base salary rate for Defendant Nelson's failure to pay him monies owed upon termination from employment.
- 105. After Plaintiff's employment was terminated, Defendant Nelson reportedly said to the management group of Visible Customer that Plaintiff had "been undermining the company and all of you for the last six months"; "Siamak has become increasingly volatile over the past six months"; "he has been making many demands over the past several months"; "Siamak was

demanding to be paid even though no one else is able to get paid"; "don't trust anything Siamak had told you"; "Siamak has thrown all of you under the bus"; "Siamak resigned from the company"; "Siamak invested money in the company and asked for a ridiculous interest rate on the money he borrowed the company"; "Siamak was calling Visible Customer's dealers saying horrible things about Nelson relating to his past"; and that Siamak gave Nelson "bad information to keep him investing in Visible Customer as well as some of the larger investments the Company had made."

- 106. Defendant Nelson's statements about Plaintiff were false statements.
- 107. Defendant Nelson's false statements about Plaintiff were intended to, and did, harm Plaintiff's professional reputation and lower him in the estimation of his business colleagues.
- 108. Defendant Nelson offered Plaintiff and his wife, Afsaneh Motameni, the opportunity to invest \$100,000 in Curt Company Investments, which Defendant Nelson represented, was financially backed by Curt Company One with accounts in excess of \$18 million dollars.
- 109. Plaintiff and his wife, and Defendant Nelson as President and CEO of Curt Company Investments, executed a Promissory Note for \$100,000, effective November 20, 2008. But for Defendant Nelson's representation of the financial status of Curt Company Investments and its backing by Curt Company One, Plaintiff and his wife would not have lent money to Curt Company Investments.
- 110. Curt Company Investments has failed to pay Plaintiff and his wife the interest owed on the principal amount of the Note, thereby breaching the Note.

- 111. On April 1, 2010, Defendant Nelson executed a Secured Promissory Note as the CEO of Visible Customer Holdings, in the amount of \$50,000.00 to Plaintiff, the lender. Plaintiff and his wife would not have loaned Visible Customer Holdings funds unless Defendant Nelson made it a condition of being paid the principal they were owed on the Note given them by Curt Company Investments.
- 112. Defendant Nelson has failed to pay Plaintiff the amount due on the Secured Promissory Note, thereby breaching the Secured Promissory Note.
- 113. Defendant Nelson knew at the time he executed the Note that Visible Customer would not be able to repay the Note and understood that this would result in harm to Plaintiff.
- 114. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Nelson's conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer substantial lost income and benefits, lost career opportunities and job security, harm to his professional reputation and other damages.
- 115. By reason of the foregoing, Defendant Nelson is liable to Plaintiff in excess of \$500,000, which debt constitutes a nondischargeable debt under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(6).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Siamak Masoudi respectfully requests as follows:

- 1. A judgment against Defendant Nelson in excess of \$500,000, plus interest;
- 2. A declaration that Defendant Nelson's debts to Plaintiff are excepted from discharge under 11 U.S.C. §§ 523(a)(2)(A) and 523(a)(6); and
- 3. Such further relief as this Court deems just and proper under the circumstances.

Dated: July 28, 2011 ENGELMEIER & UMANAH, P.A.

By s/ Sheila Engelmeier

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By___s/ Jane S. Welch

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